

Comprehensive Assessment System Policy Advisory Committee (PAC)

Recommendations to the Commissioner

On June 16, 2000, the PAC made the following recommendations:

- 1. The MEA will be no more expansive than it has been in 1999-2000. Further, there should be a review of the current MEA to determine whether or not the scope should be reduced in the text iteration.
- 2. The state will not report assessment of additional content standards in grades 4, 8, and 11. State assessment time will not be expanded at these grade levels.
- 3. Additional assessments, in the form of performance tasks, will be developed following common statewide criteria, and scored locally or regionally using common rubrics. Teams of Maine educators will audit these assessments. The data will be in a form that can be aggregated for statewide reporting.
- 4. There will be an RFP for assessment consultants to work with Maine educators to further develop the performance criteria and rubrics that have been articulated in the reports of the content committees.

With respect to Career Preparation, the PAC made the following recommendations:

"The Work Force Education Team's recommendation #1 describes assessing student performance through a portfolio process that is state developed, state reported, locally administered, locally scored and state audited. There is a perfect match between this

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recommendation and the intent of the Comprehensive Assessment System Policy Advisory Committee (CASPAC).

Recommendation #2 and #3 of the Work Force Education
Team call for expanding the scoring process and adding items to the
MEA. These recommendations do not align with the four-point
recommendation of the CASPAC. Although statewide assessment
strategies are recommended, expansion of the MEA is not an option.
Recommendation #4 of the Work Force Education Team suggests
the assessment of student performance through an on demand
presentation, demonstration, and/or exhibition (state developed, state
reported, locally administered, locally scored and state audited) could
be part of the Portfolio process described in recommendation #1.
The report of the Work Force Education Team is partially aligned
with our recommendations."

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